

COOLIDGE SET FOR ROW OVER FEDERAL SHIPS

Hands it Right Back When Senate Objects to the Appointment of Chairman Farley

SHIP OWNERS DON'T LIKE WAY FARLEY HANDLED 'EM

Upset Fat Contracts in Which United States Stood to Take all Losses

By DAVID LAWRENCE.
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WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—President Coolidge has served notice on the Senate that he does not intend to be limited in the making of executive appointments by senatorial influence. The abrupt action of the president in withdrawing from the Senate two nominations which had been favorably acted upon by the Senate committee, has rendered an adverse report on an executive nomination a matter for the United States shipping board, more than 80 years old, to be taken into consideration.

Farley Under Fire

Chairman Edward Farley of the shipping board has been the center of attack for several weeks from the shipping industry. It was he who refused to permit the managing officers to continue their famous "good" contract whereby their commissions for operating government vessels were deducted from gross receipts irrespective of whether the vessels were profitable or not. Farley has not been the most active person by any means in handling Congress, but men who come to Washington from the business world accustomed to blunt and direct methods rarely are as suave as the persons who have been tried in the political atmosphere.

Technical Obstacle

All this may or may not have had anything to do with the adverse report of the Senate committee on Coolidge's nomination of Mr. Farley. The Senate committee has only one objection to Mr. Farley, and that is that he had been appointed to the Great Lakes region, and was already serving on the board, and that comes from the same section of the country. The present law provides that only one member shall be appointed from each of certain sections of the country.

See Private Interests

Is the technicality, therefore, the real reason for fighting Mr. Farley? The president is well aware that there are interests hostile to the operation by the government even for the present of the merchant marine and that there are persons who would like to see the merchant fleet kept in chaos so that other shipping lines might profit by the disaster.

WEATHER REPORT

For La Crosse and vicinity—Generally fair tonight and Sunday. Slightly colder tonight. Wind light variable. Temperature 30 to 40. Precipitation 0.00 to 0.01. Relative humidity 60 to 70. Wind velocity 5 to 10 miles per hour.

TODAY'S TEMPERATURES

Place	Temperature
La Crosse	30
Madison	32
Chicago	35
St. Louis	38
St. Paul	35
Minneapolis	32
Des Moines	35
Omaha	38
Lincoln	35
Sioux Falls	32
Yankton	30
Brookings	28
Watkins	25
Sioux City	28
Decorah	25
Marion	22
Wausau	20
Menomonie	18
Sturgeon Bay	15
Green Bay	12
Sheboygan	10
Winnebago	8
Neenah	5
Appleton	3
Port Washington	1
Wauwatosa	-1
West Allis	-3
South Allis	-5
Whitefish Bay	-7
Menasha	-9
Winneconne	-11
Shawano	-13
Franklin	-15
Waupun	-17
Port Koshong	-19
St. Francis	-21
St. Joseph	-23
St. Charles	-25
St. Ignace	-27
St. Mary	-29
St. Ann	-31
St. Elizabeth	-33
St. Vincent	-35
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FAMILY FINDS AGED MAN ENGAGED AS PEDDLER; HE'S MISSING HEIR TO FORTUNE

CHICAGO, Ill.—Henry De La Motte, 74 years old, heir to a third of a large fortune in France, according to his daughter in New York, prepared Saturday to do a rushing business in pencil sharpeners. He had been missing for twenty years until recently located here, as a peddler. News of the fortune came Friday night in a dispatch from New York, in which Mrs. Harriet Scott, the daughter, said she was starting for Chicago to visit her long lost father and intended going to France to claim the fortune for him.

Located by Picture

After a family quarrel with an uncle, De La Motte left his home, his wife and four daughters in Milwaukee. A newspaper photograph of a line of peddlers at the city hall last year waiting permits to sell Christmas novelties on the street disclosed the face of the missing man. But he could not be found and all that could be done was to wait another Christmas. So a week ago the line of applicants was watched and there he was.

GIRL BELIEVED INTERNALLY HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Miss Clara Janacek, Mt. Horeb, Struck and Dragged by Auto of Arthur Temp

ACCIDENT OCCURS AT 5:30 AT SIXTH AND CASS STREETS

Girl Enroute to Postoffice to Mail Christmas Packages

Believe Injured Internally

While it was reported Miss Janacek had not sustained any broken bones, her face was seriously injured internally, according to the report of the physician.

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TAKE HEED

TAKE heed to yourselves that your heart is not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them—ye shall surely perish.

"Hell and Maria"

SOMEBODY ought to warn the reparations commission. Somebody ought to whisper in their cautious ears the magic phrase "Hell and Maria!" and give them the context and implications. For it seems impossible that the reparations commission is fully aware of what it has done in selecting General Dawes of Chicago as the chairman of the expert conference on Germany's ability to pay—and on anything else that happens to be brought in, such as European debts to the United States, militarism, the Ruhr and the rate of exchange. The reparations commission moves in atmosphere of calm and suppressed emotion. It sticks to the treaty of Versailles as to the gospel of a religion. It does that which has always been done by the victor to the vanquished. It loves precedent, swears by precedent, will hear no evil of precedent. And then, presumably in deference to America and as an earnest of its friendship to this country, it appoints General Dawes boss of its expert conference.

This is like to be a serious error, if the expert conference is projected as a continuation of the standard conference series of the last few years. If it is the hope of the reparations commission that this conference will result in a sounding formula of some sort that will not mean too much, and will embarrass nobody, General Dawes was not the man to pick. Because General Dawes has demonstrated very little patience with precedent as precedent, or with sounding formulas that don't mean much and embarrass nobody. General Dawes flies the black flag when he sights the decent and respectable galleons of the usual and conventional. He likes results, and his low, rakish craft slams a mean broadside into sham and futility, whenever possible. It must be that the reparations commission never heard of the financial revolution engineered by this swash-buckler from Chicago in the swivel-chair seats of the bureaucrats at Washington. It must be that, or perhaps that they actually mean business—or else they would never have selected General Dawes for chairman.

However, the selection is made. General Dawes has not accepted publicly, but he doubtless will. It wouldn't have been offered unless the commission knew pretty well that the General and the government at Washington would look with favor upon the idea. And that's all to the good. We know of no American we should rather see holding up our end in the expert conference than "Hell-and-Maria" Dawes. General Dawes is not afraid. He has done a number of big jobs with success. He was in the war and knows, as head of the A. E. F. service of supply, something of European negotiation. He understands finance. And the best of all there is that he is not afraid. He lives in the middle western United States where not international finance but international common-sense attracts popular attention and support. He may not be able to do much—two Americans will be a minority on the conference, and if the European powers stand together or arrange a private compromise, they will be outvoted. But they are not very likely to fool General Dawes. And whether they take his advice or not, we can be reasonably sure that General Dawes will know which they do, and will come home without committing this country to anything more than it is willing to undertake.

The Need Insistent

THERE are still those who are unable to adjust themselves to the idea of American relief for the suffering masses of Germany. Therefore it is interesting to note that the concern of the United States government in this matter is large and general. It might be possible for one or another of us to be mistaken about German conditions. It would be possible for us to be fooled by German propaganda and to be led into a state of mind in which we would make gifts to Germany that were not needed. There is, however, no danger that the government of the United States would err in such a matter. The government acts with the full-

est information. And so when the government decides that this great nation of ours must do something about German conditions, we can well afford to put aside suggestions that the German population is not in want, and is attempting to impose upon our credulity for the purpose of grafting.

The situation in Washington has become public within the last few days. Senator Lenroot has introduced a bill to appropriate \$20,000,000 for German relief. The president and the state department prefer that the money shall be put in the form of a loan. They would make it \$100,000,000, to be a prior lien upon German resources. This requires the consent of other governments, notably France, and it is easy to see that to bring this about will take time. It is also true that the passage of an appropriation bill, going through the usual channels of legislation, and probably with enough opposition to prevent its being made an immediate order of business, will take time.

Senator Lenroot is well aware of this. He knows that the need is too immediate to wait for government action. He knows, too, that the \$10,000,000 asked for in General Allen's campaign, and the \$20,000,000 proposed in his own bill, would, if combined, be inadequate to meet the needs of the distressed in Germany. That the government also is aware of this is shown by the fact that it puts the loan figure at more than three times the combined amount.

And so, coming from the seat of government where all the facts are known and where the necessity for American action has passed the point of debate, Senator Lenroot's appeal has more than ordinary significance. He tells the country that it must get back of the Allen campaign and to support it, and that when that is done the job will have only been begun. Whatever we as individuals do, the government will have to do much more. What we do now, because private initiative is swifter than government procedure, must save the situation until the government acts, and it is desperately needed. The Allen fund will be the vanguard of American relief.

Tom Sims Says:

"Stage Rotten, Says Rowhr"—headline. He means salacious. We hear of shows so warm they use asbestos curtains.

The war vets deserve a bonus. The taxpayers deserve a reduction. And the sun deserves a rest.

A puppy in Dorchester, Mass., has been adopted by a cat and all the other dogs will laugh at him.

Geraniums in a bedroom are not harmful and are excellent for burglars to stumble over at night.

A peculiar situation in Europe is the more they owe the United States the larger their army.

Never slap your wife or make faces at her. Over \$17,000,000 alimony is paid yearly in America.

A kidnapped Canadian teacher's mind went blank, so maybe she thought she was a pupil.

Los Angeles bank runner spent \$15,000. He may have mistaken himself for a movie star.

In Ye Olden Times

TEN YEARS

AGO TODAY

Thomas Woolley, contractor, has purchased valuable city property from Marietta Van Steerwyk. The sale includes houses and lots on the north side of State street from Seventh street to the alley. Five houses, one double, are included in the deal. The price was \$12,500.

The La Crosse Gas and Electric company this morning presented City Treasurer George Young with a check for \$23,125. This is the company's taxes and the largest single payment ever made in La Crosse.

Robert Lowry of the Exchange State bank was last night elected by the council to succeed John Streator on the school board. L. F. Easton and Harry Hirschheimer were re-elected.

Miss Hattie Chamberlain, business manager of the Marinello company, left last night for Vancouver and other western points. She will be gone three weeks.

Homer and Harold Davis, Paul Egbert, Theodore Edwards, Howard Jones, Edward Stavrum, John Hayes have returned home from their colleges to spend the holidays.

TWENTY YEARS

AGO TODAY

Otto Schlachach has returned to the city from Delaware, Ohio, to spend the holidays. He is a student at Wesleyan College there.

Thomas Jirasek, 2009 South Fourth street, has returned from California.

Last evening articles of incorporation for the La Crosse Press club, lately organized, were sent to the secretary of state at Madison. The club is organized for literary pursuits and has no capital stock. Apartments have been secured in the McMillan building.

The team of bronchos lately purchased by the Wisconsin Telephone company staged a lively runaway yesterday on Mill street.

Julius M. Quarberg, a native of Galesville, has sent word to relatives there that he arrived safely in New York after four years' absence from home during which he visited California, the Philippines, China, Siberia, Arabia and Borneo.

THIRTY YEARS

AGO TODAY

Dr. Frank Weston returned yesterday from Rush Medical college where he has been pursuing his studies and receiving lectures.

Herbert Chase, who is a student at Chicago Medical College and was formerly with Dr. Gatterdam, is at home to spend his vacation.

J. Vaillancourt, 1693 Avon street, has resumed his former position at the Jung.

Fred Schubert of this city bought a bunch of cattle in Brownsville yesterday and drove them up here on the ice. C. Hackett led one animal and it broke through the ice, but the water not being deep, it leaped out again.

Thomas Higgins has sold his farm near Brownsville to Joseph Grash of La Crosse who will occupy it in the near future. Higgins and family will move to La Crosse.

Several street car companies of eastern cities are adopting the plan of stopping cars at corners before they cross the intersection instead of after. The scheme is being discussed by the local company.

Spring In a Sky-scraper

By H. IRVING KING

Philip Morton was a round, comfortable man, a widower of some three years' standing. His office was high up in a cloud-capped office building. He had some sort of an agency—a business which consisted mainly of writing letters ordering other people to hustle—and ideal job. After a day spent in sending out orders for other people to hustle he would leave the office with a clear conscience born of the firm conviction that he had hustled himself. Morton's office force consisted of an office boy and a stenographer was Miss Primrose West. Miss Prim, the cheeky office boy calling her so himself.

Miss Prim was thirty-five years old, angular of frame and sharp of features; she spoke seldom, and efficiency "was her middle name." She had been four years in the employ of Morton and he had come to regard her as impersonally as he did the metal filing case behind her desk. But spring comes to New York as well as to other places. One beautiful spring morning Morton entered the office actually humming a tune. Miss Prim was pounding away at her typewriter. As he glanced at her Philip thought that he noticed a trace of color in her usually pale cheeks; something really attractive in the expression of her thin face, and there was an unaccountable and pleasing note in the voice with which she bade her employer "Good morning."

"Really," thought Morton, "Miss Prim is not such an unattractive woman after all." He glanced at her again and noticed that she was wearing a few bits of jewelry and a bright-colored ribbon or two, while pinned at a proper distance below her efficient chin was a bunch of cloths, such as the street vendors were beginning to sell. Morton began opening his neatly piled letters as he reflected: "Has there really been a change in Miss Prim or is it simply that from so long regarding her impersonally I failed to notice that she has a rather attractive personality?" The letters absorbed him, preventing further consideration of any subject.

In came Tom Draper from his little office across the hall. Draper had no stenographer of his own, but with Philip's permission used to bring in documents which he wanted copied to Miss Prim, who did them after hours, thus adding to her income. Draper was as tall and angular as Morton was short and plump a taciturn man and a great friend of Philip's. When they were together, Tom did all the listening and Philip all the talking—an arrangement which was perfectly satisfactory to both.

"Fine morning, Tom," said Philip as his friend entered.

"Yes, yes, so," replied Tom. "Feels like spring. Any time tomorrow will do Miss West." He laid the documents he wished copied on the stenographers' desk and went out. This was a great deal for Tom Draper to say all at once. Generally he placed his papers on Miss Prim's desk without a word and she copied them "at her earliest convenience."

"Ha, ha," chuckled Morton to himself. "Old Tom is getting loquacious. Must have caught the spring fever. Or was it—?" He looked at Miss Prim again critically. Yes, she actually blushed as she caught his glance and their eyes met. "Dictation, please, Miss Prim."

"Ready," Mr. Morton. "The way that morning's business was rushed through was a caution. At noon Philip announced that he was going out to the golf club for the rest of the day. I wish even were going too, Miss Prim," said Philip with a beaming smile as he left the office.

"Thank you, sir—but I don't play golf," replied Miss Prim demurely.

When Morton came into the office next morning he found on his desk, in a glass of water, a small bouquet of early flowers. "Ah!" said he, "beautiful. To whom am I indebted for this, Miss Prim?"

"I put them there," replied the stenographer with some asperity—and began to rattle her typewriter with a ferociousness which hinted at a cessation of conversation.

"I begin to think that Miss Prim is actually pretty," thought Philip, gazing at her feebly but appreciatively. She was wearing a bunch of lilacs of the valley that morning.

This sort of thing went on for a week—every day a fresh bouquet on Mr. Morton's desk; every day a fresh little bunch of spring flowers pinned to the dress of the efficient typewriter. And every day Miss Prim seemed to grow better looking; and every day Philip Morton seemed to grow rounder and jollier and more pleased with the world.

Then came a morning when he entered his office in an especially gay

OUT OUR WAY



mood. "The old greaser's gone dipper for sure," commented the office boy as Philip went carolling through the outer office. Morton sat down to read his morning's mail and chuckled over it as he did so, though, goodness knows there was nothing to chuckle over in that bunch of letters? Finally, turning to his stenographer, he said: "Miss Prim, you have been in my employ a long time, we may be said to know each other intimately. I am going to surprise you. I have decided that the married state is the only one really conducive to business. What do you think about it?"

"Why, Mr. Morton," replied Miss Prim, blushing and showing signs of agitation, "I think I am quite of your opinion."

"Good," replied Philip. "I am glad to hear you say so, for I am going to

"Stop, stop, Mr. Morton," interrupted Miss Prim. "before you go further I must tell you that Mr. Draper and myself became engaged last Thursday."

"What?" shouted Philip. "Old Tom? The six dog! And you, Miss Prim, you are a sly little unix, that's what you are. Congratulations to you both. This is fine. We'll have a double wedding. What I started to tell you was that Mrs. Baker—you have seen her in here occasionally—and I are to be married in June." Afterward it occurred to Philip as rather strange that Miss Prim should have interrupted his announcement to interrupt her own. As for Miss Prim, what woman who had waited as long as she had for one proposal would not have been flattered to have had two within ten days. But as she was perfectly in love with her Tom she could ignore her little disappointment.

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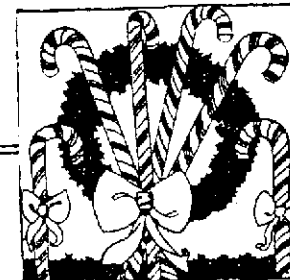
Windmills for generating electricity have been built in Prussia.

NO AMERICAN IN REVOLUTION EL PASO.—No American soldiers of fortune are being enlisted by the Mexican federal forces in the present revolution, Juarez officials declared.

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